

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (currently amended): Device (10) for extruding plastic bakery and confectionery compounds, having at least one feed instrument (12) for feeding a bakery or confectionery compound through a channel (24a; 24b; 24c) to a die (14), and a sensing instrument (60a; 60b; 60c) being provided at the channel (24a; 24b; 24c) or at the die (14) in order to determine at least one measured variable (P_a ; P_b ; P_c) related to the viscosity of the compound, characterised in that

- the feed instrument (12) and the die (14) are configured in such a way that the feed instrument (12) has provides a delivery pressure that which oscillates over time at a given frequency, and
 - the die (14) has provides a flow resistance that which oscillates at the same frequency.

2. (original): Device according to Claim 1, characterised in that the measured variable is the pressure (p_a ; p_b ; p_c) of the compound.

3. (previously presented): Device according to Claim 1, characterised in that the measured variable is the flow rate of the compound.

4. (original): Device according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, characterised in that

- the sensing instrument (60a; 60b; 60c) is operatively coupled to a control instrument (62), and
 - the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the feed instrument (12), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a;

60b; 60c), in such a way that the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14) fluctuates minimally.

5. (previously presented): Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a transport instrument (16) for removing the compound extruded from the die (14),
- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and
- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the transport instrument (16), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the transport velocity (v_t) of the transport instrument (16) corresponds to the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14).

6. (previously presented): Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a rotary instrument (26) having at least one rotatable die (14),
- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and
- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the rotary instrument (26), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14) fluctuates minimally.

7. (previously presented): Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- a feed instrument (12) is connected through a plurality of channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) to a die (14) having a plurality of outlet openings, and
- a sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is in each case arranged at the channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) or at the outlet openings of the die (14).

8. (original): Device according to Claim 7, characterised in that

- the sensing instruments (60a; 60b; 60c) are operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and
- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the feed instrument (12), as a function of the measured values determined by the sensing instruments (60a; 60b; 60c), in such a way that the exit velocities of the individual compounds from the outlet openings of the die (14) fluctuate minimally relative to one another.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Clifford W. Browning
Clifford W. Browning
Reg. No. 32,201
Woodard, Emhardt et al. LLP
Bank One Center/Tower
111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700
Indianapolis, IN 46204-5137
Telephone: 317-634-3456
browning@worldip.com

#253862